

FOXBOROUGH TOWN NEWSLETTER

April News

A Message From Our Town Manager

Volume 1, Issue 11

April, 2016

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Special points of interest:

- 5/2/16 Elections Ahern School Gym from 7:00am-8:00pm
- 5/9/16 Annual Town Meeting High School Auditorium 7:30pm



Ground has finally broken on the “new” Town Hall and with it comes a lot of excitement and anticipation of how the new building is going to look. This has been a project with a lot of history that is now finally starting to write its final chapters. BC Construction, successful contractor for this project has moved protective jersey barriers on to the parking lot site and has moved their excavating equipment there as well. A formal groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 5th and actual excavation is now under way on the site. Weekly meetings with the construction and design teams are now under way and the construction schedule is now being implemented. Over the next fourteen to sixteen months there will undoubtedly be some coordinating challenges that are being anticipated but will still lead to some unavoidable inconveniences during the construction period. Employees are parking off-site and have settled into the new but temporary routines. We appreciate everyone’s cooperation and pa-

tience as we proceed forward with this important project.

It’s great to see that Spring is finally in the air and Spring sports are now in full swing. The Parks Maintenance crews have done their usual great job in getting our playing fields in top condition for a full schedule of activity. The Recreation Department is actively planning for their summer programs and the time has come again for the Town to do its Spring cleaning of the roadways and waterways.

Spring also means its Town Meeting time and the Annual ritual will be held on May 9th starting at 7:30 at the Foxborough High School. There are thirty-one articles under consideration for this year’s meeting. The Advisory Committee has been meeting on each one of them over the course of the past three months. They will be fully prepared on May 9th to provide the Town Meeting with their full list of recommendations for the voters to act on. We

will be presenting the Town with a balanced budget proposal that maintains existing services and will also slightly enhance services in some cases. As is typically the case, this budget was developed within the limitations of Proposition 2 ½. We hope everyone can attend the meeting on May 9th so that you can exercise your right to vote and weigh in any of the proposed Articles.

Enjoy the great Spring weather!

New Town Hall Groundbreaking Ceremony

The ceremonial groundbreaking for the new town hall was held on Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

That day workers were busy plowing snow and bringing in the dirt for the ceremony. Even with frigidly cold weather it couldn't dampen the spirits for all those employees waiting for many years for this day to come.

Those participating in the ceremony were: Jay Barrows, William G. Keegan, Jr., Mary Beth Bernard, James DeVellis, David Feldman, Christopher Mitchell, John Gray and Virginia Coppola.

Anyone wishing to view the groundbreaking ceremony can do so on the main page of our website:

<http://www.foxboroughma.gov/Pages/index>

So many groups, committees and boards need to be thanked for getting us to this point, most importantly the Town Hall Working Group and Permanent Municipal & School Building Committee but also, we would be remiss if we didn't especially thank our Town Manager, William G. Keegan, Jr. If it wasn't for his persistence of making sure the public knew the facts about this project through his public media campaign which included his talk show on Cable "Ask Bill Keegan"; his question and answer meetings at the Senior Center; as well as meetings for residents at the Media Center this would not have happened. It has taken 15 years of trying/failing to get to this point.

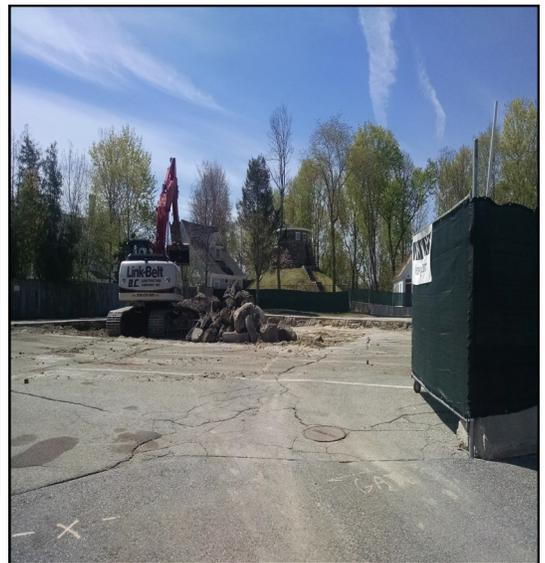
A more formal ribbon cutting will be at a later date for residents and anyone else that wish to attend the event.

Parking for the town hall will be reserved for residents coming to the building on town business. Employees will be commuted from the Recreation Field at Booth Playground until construction is complete (a small price to pay). Everyone's patience and cooperation is appreciated during this busy time.

As you can see from the photo below, digging for the foundation has already begun for the new Town Hall as well as the contractors have moved into the offices downstairs in the town hall to oversee the project. Things are finally happening people!!!



Official Groundbreaking



Digging has begun on the foundation

Town Hall Through The Years

A little history of the town hall...The first Town House was erected in 1857 and was Foxborough's first public building which was erected on the site of the present Town Hall. It housed all the town offices and English and Classical High School, which local students could attend. A wing for the first Foxborough High School was added in 1868. The building burned on June 4, 1900 and a new high school was built but town offices utilized rented space until the present town hall was built 63 years later. Unfortunately three firefighters lost their lives battling that blaze (George Josselyn, Joseph Watkins and Arthur Josselyn were killed and one fireman, Samuel Johnson, was injured.)

The new building didn't have to wait 63 years (only 15 years) and luckily there won't be the expense of renting office space for town hall employees since the new building will be built in the back.

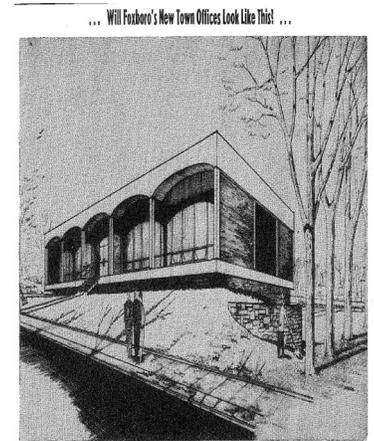
The photo on the top right depicts a design version that was taken from the February 22, 1962 Foxboro Reporter for a possible design for the Town Hall/Police Station. They classified this as "A Conservative Contemporary Design". I personally think the look of the present building was the best choice at the time (my opinion only).

Through the generations there are changes (most for the better) and with those changes each new generation of Foxborough residents are able to put their stamp on those new

changes. Thank you Foxborough for choosing the present design; this colonial design will fit perfectly in our little town (not so little anymore). It is something that our children and our grandchildren will take pride in.

Special thanks go out to Jack Authelet, Town Historian for the history and the photo of the original Town House and also Bob Cutler, Town Clerk for supplying me with the Foxboro Reporter Article from 1962.

Fifteen months seems like a long time away but we know how fast time passes so the building will be complete and occupied before we know it.

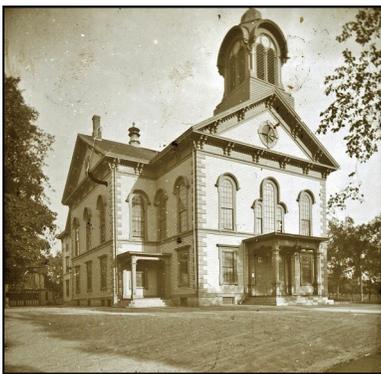


... Will Foxboro's New Town Offices Look Like This! ...
This is a sketch prepared by Architect Richard D. Thompson showing the proposed new Town Office and Police Station, to be sited on the Center School plot at South and Liberty streets. Skye of site presents a two story building. Architect describes building ... "the symmetrical colonnade, its conservative contemporary design, expresses the dignified character of a public building." Cost is estimated at \$215,000 to be voted upon at the March Town meeting. Other articles on Page 4.

One of the Designs that was being considered in 1962 for the Town Hall/Police Station



Design submitted on 10/17/1962 of basically the building we have now minus the side door to the right of the front steps.



Town Hall (House) 1857-1900
(43 Years Old)



Present Town Hall 1963-2017
(54 Years Old)



Future Town Hall To Be Completed in 2017

Construction of the New Flagpole Begins

Work began on the new flagpole construction and delivery of the flagpole will be May 2, 2016.

The design of the concrete was developed by Jim DeVellis who is an engineer by trade as well as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen and a member of the Flagpole Committee (wonderful design).

Donations were collected from the citizen's/businesses of Foxborough to make this possible; even the children in town got involved in the donation efforts.

Our thanks go out to all of the residents/businesses and Friends of the Foxborough Flagpole Committee who made this all possible.

The town common is an important feature of the town and the flagpole is at its center and this design will make Foxborough proud.

The picture below shows the Lawrence W. Foster Post American Legion Color Guard, led by Commander Walter Hiller, gathered around the flagpole on the Common in a special Memorial Day tribute while Foxborough servicemen and women were on duty around the world during the Dark Days of World War II (does everyone see the snow in that picture). The flagpole will be relieved of its mission shortly after 89 years of dedicated service.

When the new flagpole went up, the old one was cut in half and the top half went over to the American Legion Hall for

their flag pole (which still stands in front of their building).

Today, April 28, 2016 the crew was out dismantling the present flagpole.

Thanks go out to FCATV for supplying Jim DeVellis with the aerial photograph of our present flagpole and also to Jack Authelet, Town Historian for supplying us with the history of the flagpole as well as the picture below.

Also, please see at the bottom of page 6 an article about the time capsule that will be buried near the flagpole that town residents are being requested to submit their letters for.



Aerial Photograph taken by the FCATV Drone



Photo of the deck that will be around the flagpole



Memorial Day Services During World War II



A Big Thank You



Flagpole Being Taken Down 4/28/16

Chili Contest 2016

The employees at Town Hall held their annual chili contest on April 5, 2016.



This is always an enjoyable event for everyone at town hall....good fun, good food, good people.

This year's winner by an overwhelming majority vote was Tom Wrynn from the Building Department.

What most people don't know is that before working at the town hall, Tom used to own his own restaurant so it stands to reason that he would be an excellent chef.

This event was organized by Patti Tisdale from the Board of Health (last year's winner) as well as Bill Casbarra (founder and multiple year winner of this event).

They had not only chili for everyone to eat, but corn-bread, brownies made with chili powder (excellent by the way) as well as many other items.

Thank you to everyone that participated whether it be cooking or eating it was a fun day.

And most of all.... **CONGRATULATIONS TOM!!!!**

Recreation Pee Wee Baseball Season Opens

For the last 9 years Foxboro Recreation has been preparing Foxboro's 4, 5 and 6 year olds for the day they get to play on a big diamond! Pee Wee Baseball is a fun approach for our youngest athletes to begin to play and understand baseball in a non-competitive setting. The boys and girls who play all proudly wear their baseball shirts, and they are all given the number 1 because in our eyes and the eyes of their parents they are number 1. Each class is one hour long



and they are introduced to basic skills such as hitting, on and off the tee, fielding, and running bases. These kids love to slide just like the big guys. Coach Rachel Calabrese and a staff of volunteer Dads run the drills and make them fun while teaching - imagine learning to hit a ball by practicing with bubbles! When the six week season is over it's time for THE BIG GAME! The kids learn baseball etiquette when the game starts with the National Anthem and they all hold their caps over

there hearts - then it's play ball! There is a broadcaster to announce all the kids and the action on the field, there is bubble gum for all - very important to the game and every child will cross home plate to a rousing ovation! When the game is over there is popcorn, hotdogs and commemorative balls are given to all. Recreation is building ball players, but more importantly memories. Sorry folks, as much fun as it sounds, it's for the pee-wees only.

Time Capsule—Letters from the Past

The Friends of the Foxborough Flagpole Committee have come up with a great idea of putting a time capsule to be buried around the new flagpole to be unearthed in the year 2066. Residents are requested to fill out the letter (sample letter on page 6 of this newsletter) so they can be added to the time capsule.



Blank letters are located on the Recreation Department website:

http://www.foxbororec.com/forms/6041_flag_pole_time_capsule_form_letter.pdf

or you may get them at the schools, Boyden Library, Town Hall and Senior Center.

There are also drop off boxes at town hall or mail them to:

Rachel Calabrese
53 Cross Street
Foxborough, MA 02035

Due by: 5/17/16

This is something that our grandchildren might get to see/hear in 2066.

MAY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Household Hazardous Waste Day <i>Friends of</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 Foxboro Jaycees Vendor
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Garden Club Plant Sale
22	23	24	25	26 Government Day @ COA for All Town Employees	27	28
29	30	31				


Schedule of Events

- 5/7 Household Hazardous Waste Day DPW 70 Elm Street 9:00AM-12:00PM
- 5/7 Friends of Foxboro Seniors Plant Sale on the Common 8-12
- 5/14 Foxboro Jaycees Vendor Fair on the Common 9-3
- 5/21 Garden Club Plant Sale 9:00-12
- 5/26 Government Day at COA for all Town Employees (training includes Ethics, Record Retention, etc.)



May, 2016

Dear Foxborough Resident of 2066,

Hello from the past!

If you are reading this letter, you know that it was included in a time capsule that was buried under the new Flag pole on the Common that the residents and businesses of Foxborough funded this year. The time capsule is part of a project of the Friends of the Foxborough Flagpole Committee. It is supposed to be opened 50 years in the future, so if you are reading this, it should be the year 2066.

Our family, _____, have been residents of Foxborough _____ years and we live at _____.

Our thoughts on Foxborough in the present day are:

Our hopes for Foxborough in 50 years are:

The best event we attended in Foxborough this year is:

The highlight of the year in our opinion was:

Any additional comments please use back of this letter:

We hope you've enjoyed our letter.

Sincerely,

The _____ Family

TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH



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WWW.FOXBOROUGHMA.GOV

The Town of Foxborough was legally incorporated on June 10, 1778 and is known by its residents as “the Gem of Norfolk County”.

Office hours are:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:30 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.

Friday: 8:30 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.



Visit Us On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Foxborough-MA/1544656282484319>



Like Our Site

Government Days Scheduled

MCOA has once again scheduled a training opportunity to learn from experts in state government about topic areas of importance to Councils on Aging. These day long one day trainings are scheduled for **May 26 in Foxboro** and June 21 in Bourne/Buzzards Bay. There is **no charge** for the training.

You will have the opportunity to learn about:

- Ethics (conflict of interest laws, codes of conduct, when you leave public service and more);
- Statewide purchasing (surplus property program);
- Political campaigning (what can and cannot be done in your senior center) and;
- Paper retention laws (electronic records, how long to keep certain records, learning the process for record destruction).

The Foxboro training will be held at the Foxboro Senior Center and the Bourne/Buzzards Bay training will be held at the Bourne Senior Center. A Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

You can register for these trainings at mcoonline.com. While there is no charge to attend the trainings, MCOA does have costs associated with these events. We request prior notification if you are unable to attend our events. If your plans have changed and you cannot attend, please let us know 48 hours in advance. For more information, contact Donna Popkin, Director for Technical Assistance, Training and Special Events at Donna@mcoonline.com or 617-775-0116.